

APR 20 2006

003/024

Application Serial No. 09/944,278

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said system comprising:

5 a server for receiving a request for travel information and for processing said request into a query; and

a database coupled to a feed retrieval system, wherein said feed retrieval system retrieves content from a plurality of internal and external partners,

10 wherein said plurality of internal partners are located within the limits of the business.

wherein said content is categorized, customized, and stored in said database,

15 wherein said database is used during receiving and processing said query, and in returning said search result to said server,

wherein said search result comprises said travel information in a concise and consistent fashion, thereby providing ease of use for an end user.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said feed retrieval system organizes said content for efficient storage by said database for easy retrieval.

3. (Previously Amended) The system of Claim 2, said feed retrieval system further comprising:

25 a rules-based engine for said obtaining said content from said internal and external partners and storing said content into said database in a format used by a search engine.

4. (Original) The system of Claim 2, said feed retrieval system further comprising:

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custom coded forms in a predetermined format supplied to said partners for facilitating said obtaining travel information.

5. (Original) The system of Claim 4, wherein said custom coded forms
5 are in XML format.

6. (Original) The system of Claim 1, said server further comprising:
a spell check tool for providing a spell check service to an end user for
assisting an end user in providing correct spelling of an intended word.

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7. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 6, wherein said spell
check tool further comprises any of:

means for suggesting alternate spellings of said word;

means for providing similarly spelled words or relevant phrases; and

15 means for settling ambiguity among said word with other words or
phrases having similar parts of said word.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
lookup tables for determining matches to facilitate processing said
20 request into said query.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
a search mechanism for determining a context of said request, thereby
anticipating an end user's intention.

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10. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 9, said search
mechanism further comprising:

a variety of context determining categories; and

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means for determining said context determining category.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 10, wherein said variety of context determining categories comprises:

5 a destination.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, said search result comprising: the following travel categories:

destination guides;
10 canned keywords;
local events;
low air fares;
hot deals; and
lodging.

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13. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said travel information comprises static information and/or dynamic information,

wherein said dynamic information comprises local events, and

wherein said local events comprises a concert.

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14. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 13, wherein said dynamic information comprises any of:

local events;
low air fares;
25 a hot deal; and
a fare watch.

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15. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said server is a web server and said travel information is presented in one web page.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15, wherein said one web page comprises:

a more link for facilitating linking to more detailed information as an option.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said more detailed information comprises information reflecting and associated with one or more than one of said context determining categories.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a local escapes feature, wherein said local escapes feature uses a home location to provide particular travel information.

19. (Original) The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

means for determining said home location when not provided by an end user.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 18, wherein said home location is selected from a list of predetermined home locations.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 20, wherein said list of predetermined home locations comprises:

at least fifty predetermined cities or home airports.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 18, wherein said provided travel information comprises any of:

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a fare watch;

weekend e-fares;

local events;

hot deals;

5 links to other cities; and

maps.

23. (Original) The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

10 means for filtering out travel information not relevant to said home location.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 18, further comprising:

15 a multi-hierarchical schema for organizing geographical regions to facilitate determining relevant travel information, wherein content in said regions overlap.

25. (Original) The system of Claim 24, wherein geographical regions comprise urban regions.

20 26. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein said urban regions comprise content from other nearby and relevant cities associated with said home location.

25 27. (Currently Amended) A method for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said method comprising:

providing a server for receiving a request for travel information and for processing said request into a query; and

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providing a database coupled to a feed system, wherein said feed system retrieves content from a plurality of internal and external partners,

wherein said plurality of internal partners partner are located within the limits of the business,

5 wherein said content is categorized, customized, and stored in said database,

wherein said database is used during receiving and processing said query, and in returning said search result to said server,

10 wherein said search result comprises said travel information in a concise and consistent fashion, thereby providing ease of use for an end user.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein said step of providing a feed retrieval system organizes said content for efficient storage by said database for easy retrieval.

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29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein said feed retrieval system further comprises:

20 a rules-based engine for said obtaining said content from said internal and external partners and storing said content into said database in a format used by a search engine.

30. (Original) The method of Claim 28, said feed retrieval system further comprising:

25 custom coded forms in a predetermined format supplied to said partners for facilitating said obtaining travel information.

31. (Original) The method of Claim 30, wherein said custom coded forms are in XML format.

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32. (Original) The method of Claim 27, wherein said server further comprises:

5 a spell check tool for providing a spell check service to an end user for assisting an end user in providing correct spelling of an intended word.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 32, said spell check tool further comprising:

10 suggesting alternate spellings of said word;
providing similarly spelled words or relevant phrases; and
settling ambiguity among said word with other words or phrases having similar parts of said word.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 27, further comprising:

15 providing lookup tables for determining matches to facilitate processing said request into said query.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 27, further comprising:

20 providing a search mechanism for determining a context of said request, thereby anticipating an end user's intention.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35, wherein said search mechanism further comprises:

25 a variety of context determining categories; and
means for determining said context determining category.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 36, wherein said variety of context determining categories comprise:

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a destination; and
an interest.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein said search
5 result comprises the following travel categories:

destination guides;
canned keywords;
local events;
low air fares;
10 hot deals; and
lodging.

39. (Original) The method of Claim 27, wherein said travel information
comprises static and/or dynamic information.
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40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 39, wherein said dynamic
information comprises any of:
local events;
low air fares;
20 hot deal; and
a fare watch.

41. (Original) The method of Claim 27, wherein said server is a web server
and said travel information is presented in one web page.
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42. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, wherein said one web
page comprises:

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a more link for facilitating linking to more detailed information as an option.

43. (Original) The method of Claim 42, wherein said more detailed
5 information comprises information reflecting and associated with one or more
than one of said context determining categories.

44. (Original) The method of Claim 27, further comprising:
providing a local escapes feature, wherein said local escapes feature
10 uses a home location to provide particular travel information.

45. (Original) The method of Claim 44, further comprising:
determining said home location when not provided by an end user.

15 46. (Original) The method of Claim 44, wherein said home location is
selected from a list of predetermined home locations.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein said list of
predetermined home locations comprises at least fifty predetermined cities or
20 home airports.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 44, wherein said
provided travel information comprises, a local escape category comprising
any of:

25 a fare watch;
weekend e-fares;
local events;
hot deals;

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links to other cities; and
maps.

49. (Original) The method of Claim 44, further comprising:

5 filtering out travel information not relevant to said home location.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 44, further comprising:

providing a multi-hierarchical schema for organizing geographical
regions to facilitate determining relevant travel information, wherein content in
10 said regions overlap.

51. (Original) The method of Claim 50, wherein geographical regions
comprise urban regions.

15 52. (Original) The method of Claim 51, wherein said urban regions
comprise content from other nearby and relevant cities associated with said
home location.

20 53. (Currently Amended) A universal search algorithm for providing search
results using at least one internally maintained travel information plurality of
databases, comprising:

querying a--first for an interest from said at least one internal travel
information database;

25 if a match is established, then corresponding information from said first
database is returned;

if a match is not established, then querying for a destination from said
at least one internal travel information second database;

if a match is established, then corresponding information from said
destination second database is returned;

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if no match is established, then a spell check tool is invoked, and the process of querying at least one of said first database and said second database is repeated; and

5 if all above querying attempts are exhausted, a simple text search is performed.

54. (Currently Amended) The universal search algorithm of Claim 53, further comprising:

10 if all above querying attempts are exhausted, a simple text search is performed wherein ~~said first database is an interest database, and wherein said second database is a destination database.~~

55. (Original) The universal search algorithm of Claim 53, further comprising:

15 returning accurate and categorized information on selected predetermined keywords.

56. (Previously Presented) The universal search algorithm of Claim 55, wherein said keywords comprise any of:

20 visa;
cars; and
hotels.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein said request
25 for travel information comprises:
an interest.

58. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 57, wherein possible destinations are presented based upon said interest ~~is requested.~~

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59. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein said request for travel information comprises:

an interest.

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60. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 59, wherein subsequent to said interest request and without a destination request, possible destinations are presented based upon said interest request.

10 61. (New) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a multi-hierarchical schema for organizing at least one geographical region to facilitate determining relevant travel information,

wherein said multi-hierarchical schema comprises levels of a state, a region within said state, and cities within said region.

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62. (New) A system for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said system comprising:

a server for receiving a request for travel information and for processing said request into a query; and

20 a database coupled to a feed retrieval system, wherein said feed retrieval system retrieves content from a plurality of partners,

wherein said content comprises data categorized, customized, and stored in a multi-hierarchical schema for organizing at least one geographical region,

25 wherein said geographical region is categorized into a first set of narrower regions,

wherein said first set of narrower regions is categorized into a second set of still narrower regions,

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wherein said database is used during receiving and processing said query, and in returning said search result to said server; and

wherein said search result comprises said travel information in a concise and consistent fashion, thereby providing ease of use for an end user.

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63. (New) The system of Claim 62, wherein said database comprises both static information and dynamic information,

wherein said dynamic information contained in said database comprises local escape information of things to do in a local specified area.

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64. (New) The system of Claim 63, further comprising

a search mechanism that determines a category for which a user is requesting information, wherein said category comprises:

an interest; and

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a destination.

65. (New) The system of Claim 64, wherein said search mechanism determines whether to search based on a user interest before searching based on a user destination or to search based on said user destination before searching based on said user interest.

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66. (New) The universal search algorithm of Claim 53, further comprising:

a search mechanism that determines a category for which a user is requesting information, wherein said category comprises:

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an interest; and

a destination.